



AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 2

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Title: DIGITAL RETURN PATH FOR HYBRID FIBER/COAX NETWORK

IN THE CLAIMS

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Please amend claim 21 as follows:

- Sub
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- A2
21. (Amended) The receiver of claim 18, wherein the at least one demultiplexer comprises:
- one first stage demultiplexer for each coaxial link associated with the receiver;
 - and
 - an additional demultiplexer coupled to an input of each of the first stage demultiplexers.